## <u>Greater Bay Area Performing Arts Forum</u> <u>held (with photos)</u>

To facilitate closer exchange by the arts, culture and creative industries in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) held the Greater Bay Area Performing Arts Forum at the Ko Shan Theatre today (March 22). Industry forerunners from the Greater Bay Area were invited to seize new opportunities for co-operation by building exchange platforms for the performing arts community and discussing their experiences in theatre operation and programme planning.

In her welcome remarks, the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services, Ms Michelle Li, said that cities in the Greater Bay Area share the common historic origins and roots in traditional culture, while each demonstrates its own advantages and uniqueness. With the numerous cultural venues in the region, the forms and content of the performing arts have become more diversified while ticketing and promotion networks reach beyond boundaries. Ms Li said she believes that the collaboration of hardware and software across the Greater Bay Area can cultivate a more prosperous environment for the cultural and arts community.

Following the completion and operation of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link, as well as the launch of the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, the social and cultural communication in the areas has become stronger. In light of this, the LCSD has been proactively lining up performances and exchange activities in Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macao since last year, and invited different parties to discuss the achievements in the forum.

Participants at the forum included performers, representatives of cultural venues and other arts professionals in the Greater Bay Area such as representatives of performing venues and the artists and arts groups who have performed in the region. Through keynote speeches, discussion of experience and exhibitions, industry practitioners could connect and keep abreast of the operational practices of arts groups and performing venues, understand the audience in the Greater Bay Area and the environments of the arts industry in other cities in the Mainland, and explore new co-operation opportunities.





